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IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 JAN 2006

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 040894-7383

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Nobuaki YAGI )  
Application No.: Unassigned ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Filed: January 31, 2006 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
For: STAPLE LEGS BENDING MECHANISM )

Commissioner for Patents  
**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application

A copy of each listed document is attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed document and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

(a) JP-A-2002-052482: The relevance of this document can be understood from the International Search Report, the English language abstract attached thereto, the figures therein, and the discussion at page 1 of the present application.

(b) JP-Y-6-7893: This document is cited in the International Search Report.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitutes "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**



Robert J. Goodell, Reg. No. 41,040

Date: January 31, 2006

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| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) |  | Attorney Docket No.<br>040894-7383 | Serial No.<br>Unassigned |
|   |  | Applicants<br>Nobuaki YAGI         |                          |
| <b>PTO Form 1449</b>  |  | Filing Date<br>January 31, 2006    | Group<br>Unassigned      |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |  |                  |                   |         |       |           |             |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|
|                          |  | Document Number  | Date              | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation |
|                          |  | JP-A-2002-052482 | February 19, 2002 | Japan   |       |           | YES NO      |
|                          |  | JP-Y-6-7893      | March 2, 1994     | Japan   |       |           | X           |
|                          |  |                  |                   |         |       |           |             |
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**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

| OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Location, page #, etc.) |  |  |
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| Examiner   | Date Considered |
| Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |                 |